

ADVERTISE!

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THE CHINA MAIL.
THE POPULAR and LEADING PAPER.

The China Mail.

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Of Every Description
Promptly, Neatly, &
Cheaply Executed
AT THE
'China Mail Office,'
5 WINDHAM STREET.

No. 11,591.

號四月五年百九千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1900.

日六初月四年子庚

PRICE, \$2.50 Per Month.

Business Notices.

W. S. BAILEY & CO., FOR THE SUMMER

17, PRAYA CENTRAL.

Engineers and General Merchants

SOLE AGENTS FOR CARTER'S DISINTEGRATORS FOR

GRINDING BARK, BEAN CAKE, SANDALWOOD, CORN,

Etc., Etc., Etc.

AMERICAN DRILLING MACHINES FOR HAND OR POWER
DUPLEX AND DIRECT ACTING PUMPS FOR EVERY SERVICE

SHIP'S TELEGRAPHS, SPECIAL SIZES FOR
LAUNCHES.

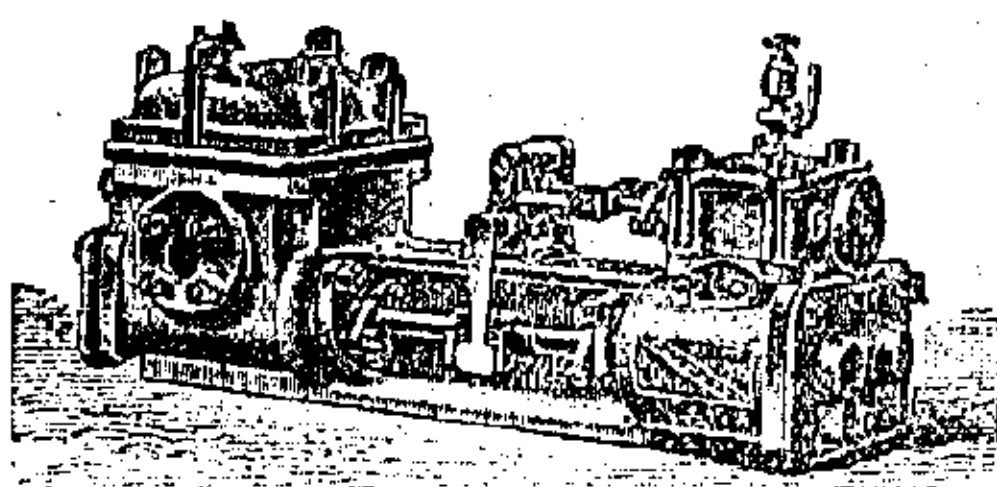
CHAMPION FORGES, LUBRICATORS,
INJECTORS, EJECTORS.

ENGINE OILS & SOLIDIFIED LUBRICANT.

ENGINE AND BOILER MOUNTINGS.

ASBESTOS AND PUMP PACKINGS.

GENERAL STORES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.



THE

Peak Hotel.

CITY OFFICE,

7, DUDDELL STREET.

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN.

CENTRALLY Situated at PLUNKET'S
GAP, THE PEAK, 1,500 feet
above Sea Level and 500 yards from Tram
terminus. For Terms, &c.,
Apply to the MANAGER.
Telephone No. 55.

KWONG SANG YUEN & CO.,
MAKERS OF
MANILA CIGARS.

ONLY the best leaves, selected by our
special Representative in the Philip-
pines, are used in the Manufacture of these
Cigars.
Samples and Prices, post free, on Appli-
cation. Inspection cordially invited.
Factory—No. 12, Station Street North,
Yau-ma-tei, Hongkong.

SANITARY BOARD.

THE Attention of Owners of HOUSE
PROPERTY in the Colony is directed
to the requirements of Section 7 of Ordina-
nce No. 34 of 1899, with regard to the
Backyard for every existing Domestic
Building, and to the fact that these Back-
yards must be provided before the first day
of June, 1900.

By Order,
G. A. WOODROCK,
Acting Secretary, Sanitary Board.
Sanitary Board Office,
Hongkong, April 10, 1900.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF
CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM BONUS of TWENTY PER
CENT. upon CONTRIBUTIONS for
the year 1899, has been decided.
WARRANTS will be issued on the 1st
May.

By Order of the Board,
W. J. SAUNDERS,
Secretary.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extra-
ordinary General MEETING of
Humphreys Estate and Finance Company,
Limited, will be held at the Offices of the
Company, 38 and 40 Queen's Road Central,
Victoria, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY,
the 10th May, 1900, at Noon, when the
subjoined Resolution, which was passed at
an Extraordinary General Meeting of the
Company held on the 30th April, 1900,
will be submitted for Confirmation as a
Special Resolution, namely—

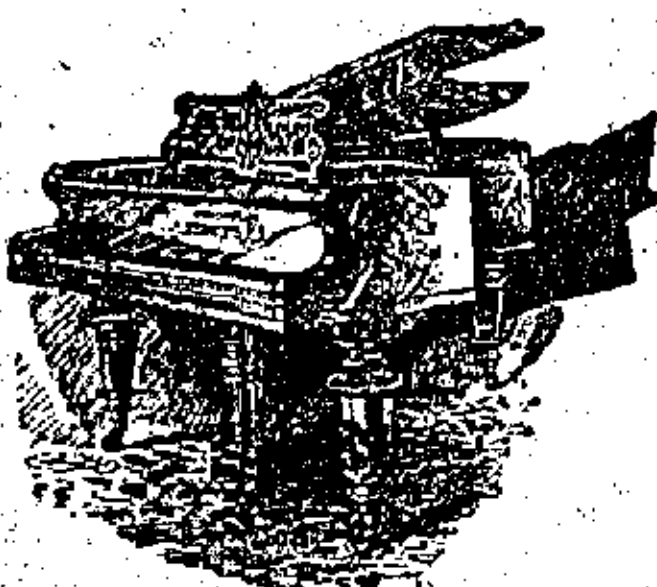
"That the NEW REGULATIONS, ap-
proved by this Meeting, and for the
purpose of identification, subscribed by
the Chairman thereof, be, and they
are hereby approved, and that such
Regulations be, and they are hereby
adopted as the Regulations of the
Company, to the exclusion of all the
existing Regulations thereof."

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
A copy of the New Regulations can be
seen at the Company's Office.
Hongkong, May 1, 1900.

NOTICE.

I have this day established myself as
an CIVIL ENGINEER, ARCHITECT,
and SURVEYOR.
E. M. HAZELAND.
Office—No. 1, Des Voeux Road, 1st
Floor.
Hongkong, May 1, 1900.

Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.



GRANDS OF HIGHEST CLASS,
BECHSTEIN, FLEYEL,
COLLARD, RACHALS.
HIRE AND TIME PAYMENT ACCEPTED.
MAGNIFICENT LOT NEW HAAKE PIANOS,
IS JUST ARRIVED.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT AND AGENCY COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a
MEETING of the Board of Direc-
tors of the above Company, held at the
Registered Office of the Company, Queen's
Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on
Tuesday, the Twenty-seventh day of March,
1900, the following resolutions were
passed:—

1. That in pursuance of the provisions
of the Special Resolution passed at
an Extraordinary General Meeting of
the Company held on the 7th
and confirmed on the 27th March
instant, and since duly registered,
the sum of \$1,250,000 be withdrawn
from the Reserve Fund and be
carried as of the 2nd July next,
to the Credit of Capital Account,
each share being credited with a
sum of \$25 as paid up thereon in
addition to the sum of \$80 now
standing to the credit of each share.

2. That the balance of \$25 per share
of the Capital of the Company
be called up, and that a Call
be and is hereby made of \$25 per
share upon all the shares of the
Company, and that the Share-
holders be requested to pay the
same to the Company's Bankers,
the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank-
ing Corporation, at their premises,
Queen's Road Central, on or before
the 2nd day of July A. D. 1900.

Shareholders are hereby requested to pay
accordingly.

And Notice is also given that, in accor-
dance with Article 34 of the Company's
Articles of Association, interest will be
charged as from the said 2nd day of July
1900, at the rate of 12 per centum per
annum, upon all Calls remaining unpaid
after the 2nd day of July 1900, up to the
actual dates of payment of the same.

By Order of the Board,
A. SHELTON HOOVER,
Secretary.

Hongkong, March 27, 1900.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY,
LIMITED.

ROSEBUD AUSTRALIAN CREAM-
ERY BUTTER.
DAIRY FARM FRESH BUTTER.
Do. MILK.
Do. CREAM.

Orders promptly executed, and delivered
twice a day at Customers' residences.
Hongkong, April 23, 1900.

NOTICE.

CANTON ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND
FIRE EXTINGUISHING CO., LD.
NOTICE is hereby given that an Ex-
traordinary General MEETING of
the Canton Electric Lighting and Fire
Extinguishing Company, Limited, will be
held at the Company's Office, No. 9, Praya
Central, on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day
of May, 1900, at Noon, for the purpose
of considering and if thought fit passing
the following Resolution, that is to say:—
"That the Company be wound up volun-
tarily and that LI YUK TONG of Victo-
ria, Hongkong, be and is hereby appointed
Liquidator for the purpose of such wind-
ing up."

Should the above Resolution be passed
by the requisite majority it will be sub-
mitted for confirmation at a Special
Resolution at a Second Extraordinary
General Meeting which will be subsequently
convened.

Dated the 1st day of May, 1900.
By Order of the Board,
LI YUK TONG,
LIAO FONG SHU,
Managers.

'KIRIN.'

A Delicate
Lager.

THE CELEBRATED BEER OF
JAPAN.

QUARTS, \$2.90 per dozen.
PINTS, \$1.75 do.

W. HUTTON POTTS,
Sole Agent for Hongkong.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that the
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL ORDIN-
ARY GENERAL MEETING of the
Company, (since its Registration), will be
held in the Board Room, at the Hongkong
Dispensary, on MONDAY, the 14th Inst.,
at Twelve o'clock Noon, for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the General Man-
agers, together with a Statement of Account
to the 31st December, 1899.

The REGISTER of SHARES will be
CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 9th
Inst., until SATURDAY, the 16th Inst.,
both days inclusive, during which period
NO TRANSFER of SHARES will be
Registered.

By Order,
A. H. MANCILL,
Secretary.

Hongkong, May 1, 1900.

NOTICE.

WE beg to call the attention of con-
sumers of NAPIER JONSON'S
'SQUARE BOTTLE' WHISKY to the
fact that another Whisky is now being sold
in the Colony, also put up in Square Bottles
and BEARING A LABEL VERY
CLOSELY RESEMBLING THE N.J.,
and to ask them to see that they get the
REAL NAPIER JONSON'S when placing
their orders.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
Sole Agents for N.J. Whisky.

Hongkong, May 3, 1900.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THE HONGKONG TIMBER YARD,
(Established 1850)
has this day been REMOVED from No.
55, Praya East, Marine Lot 192, to Island
Lot 1908, BOWRINGTON CANAL, near
Leighton Hill Road Bridge, and opposite
Lee Yuen Sugar Refinery.

L. MAMORY,
Hongkong, May 1, 1900.

EXPERIENCED COMPTROLLER
WANTED.

By a European Firm, doing IMPORT
and EXPORT Business in Hong-
kong. Applicants, who can give sufficient
security, may address to 'P. E.' care of
Office of this Paper.
Hongkong, May 1, 1900.

Business Notices.

SOFT FRONTED COLORED SHIRTS,
very THIN and COOL.

Hosiery and Underwear,
Washing Ties,

White Buckskin Boots,

White Canvas Shoes.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED,

4, PRAYA CENTRAL
(NEAR THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE).

PACKING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
BOILER COMPOSITION,
ENGINE AND OTHER OILS.

ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK.

ALL ARTICLES OF FIRST-CLASS QUALITY.

BRADLEY & Co., Managers.
JOHN BROWNHILL, Superintendent.

1027

THE PHARMACY,

10 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

ENGLISH and FOREIGN PATENT MEDICINES. Prescriptions carefully
dispensed by a qualified CHEMIST. Special attention to FRENCH and Other
FOREIGN FORMULAE.

SOMERVILLE'S EXPORT AND 'GLENDOUR' WHISKIES.
PORTSOY HIGHLAND WHISKY (PURE MALT).
MANILA CIGARS.

1882

Manager, RICHARD FLINT.

G. H. MUMM & CO'S

EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE.

Agents: SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

For Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.

FERGUSON'S

SPECIAL CREAM

BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland;
dare not absolutely of all deleterious matter.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.

PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

MANILA CIGARS,

ALWAYS ON HAND THE BEST MARKS FROM
'LA INSULAR' AND 'LA PERLA DE ORIENTE' FACTORIES.

J. M. DE ZUNIGA,
No. 9, Queen's Road Central,
Enter once by Lee House Street, (New Victoria Hotel).

THE LARGEST MANUFACTORY OF HIGH-CLASS
EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES in the British Colonies.

LIVIERATO & CO.,
ADEN, Arabia.

Their Cigarettes are guaranteed fresh, pure and
fragrant.

The best and cheapest Egyptian Cigarettes in
the world.

Any order can be forwarded by parcel post to
every part of the world.

Numerous testimonials for their sweet-smoke
Cigarettes.

BEWARE OF IMITATION!

LIVIERATO & Co.

Business Notices.

THE SUMMER HAS COME
AND SO HAVE

Watkins' Aerated Waters.

But the latter have come to stay.

OUR

SODA, POTASH, TONIC, RASPBERRYADE,

SARSAPARILLA, LEMON-SQUASH, SELTZER, LITHIA,

SANTHARIS, LEMONADE, BELFAST GINGER-ALE,

ZOEDON, AND GINGER BEER

are second to none. Our machinery being of the very newest
design we are enabled to turn out the best article.

Watkins Limited.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

Portland Cement.

\$4.50 per Cask of 375 lb. net ex Factory.

\$2.80 per Bag of 250 lb. net ex Factory.

Factories—HONGKONG AND MACAO.

Glazed Stoneware, Drain Pipes and Fittings, Glazed
Paving Bricks and Tiles, Fire Bricks and Fire Clay.

FIRE CLAY WORKS—DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

For further particulars, apply to

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,

GENERAL AGENTS.

ORGANS - - -

A New consignment of American and
Japanese ORGANS.

PRICES: - - - \$30 to \$400,
MONTHLY PAYMENT ACCEPTED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS

IN THE
HONGKONG HOTEL.

NEWLY FURNISHED ROOMS ON FIRST FLOOR, OLD BUILDING.

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE PROVIDED FOR GUESTS

Sure Cure for Indigestion.

Johnson's

DIGESTIVE TABLETS.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

COTTAM & Co.,

FOR THE APPROACHING SUMMER, JUST ARRIVED
A NEW STOCK OF

CELLULAR SHIRTS, PRINT SOFT-FRONTED SHIRTS,
AND

WASHING TIES, Etc., Etc.

FOR THE SUMMER,
SPARKLING DEVONSHIRE CIDER.

BREWED AT TOTNES, DEVON,
By
Messrs. BENTALL, LLOYD & CO.

Sole Agents for Hongkong,
CALDECK, MACGREGOR & Co.

W. POWELL & Co.

DRESSES! DRESSES!! DRESSES!!!

EX S.S. 'SANUKI MARU'

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

LADIES' SUMMER DRESS MATERIALS.

FRENCH CAMBRICS AND MUSLINS, Etc.,
ALL COLOURS.

Special for LADIES
CLOUSES, DRESSING
GOWNS, KNICKER-
BOCKERS, Etc.

Hocks and Moselles.

LAUBENHEIMER
GRAACHER
MIEBSTEINER
MIEBSTEINER

TRADE MARK
CALIFORNIA RIESLING
Do. HOCK

YUEN WO
Telephone
No. 195

H. PRIOR & Co.,
11 QUEEN'S ROAD.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Notes by the Way.

During the twenty-four hours ending noon on 4th May, 4 new cases of plague were reported, and 5 deaths.

A second non-conference steamer named the *J. W. Taylor*, of 2,807 tons, has arrived at Singapore to load for Europe.

H.M.S. *Robin*, the new river gunboat, which has been put to the Kowloon Naval Camber, went out yesterday for a steam trial which proved very satisfactory.

A little incident of one of the battles reaches the *E. Graham* by the last mail. A cockney sergeant in a Highland Regiment was heard shouting to his men: "For 'cawn's sake, don't forget we're 'ghlanders."

The Dallas Opera Company.

In consequence of the celebration consequent on the arrival of H.M.S. *Terrible* on Tuesday next, the Dallas Company will not perform their season in Hongkong until Thursday, 10th May, when a performance will be given of "The Geisha."

Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council will meet on Monday next, at 3 p.m., when Financial Minutes will be submitted and the first readings will take place of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1872, an Ordinance to further amend the Regulation of Chinese Ordinances, 1888, and an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law providing for the grant of pensions to the widows and orphans of deceased public officers.

Hongkong Hotel.

The Band of the Hongkong Regiment will play at the Hongkong Hotel to-morrow (Saturday) evening, from 8 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

March. "Von Donnersberg" Retina's Overture. "Jura" Williams. Selection. "Satanstoe" Rossini. Waltz. "Die Alpenhorn" J. Jones. Song. "The Handmaid" Somerville. Polka. "Skyline" Kessler. "Good Bye the Queen."

R. W. P. Band.

The following programme of music will be played by the band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at the Officers' Mess, Murray Barracks, to-night, commencing at 8 p.m.:

March. "Fate" Wagner. Overture. "Le Siege de Corinthe" Rossini. Selection. "Dorothy" Gullier. Waltz. "The Venetian Song" Bualoni. Song. "Queen of the Earth" Marcell. Selection. "Cavalleria Rusticana" Mascagni. EXTRAS. Dance. "La Sra. Sra." Reeder. Valce. "Chicago" Morrell. Galop. "Always Joyful" Hecker. J. H. Moir, Band Master.

Souvenirs of the Siege of Kimberley.

We have received for perusal a number of interesting souvenirs of the siege of Kimberley in the shape of copies of the *Diamond Fields Advertiser* published during and after the siege. The issues subsequent to the siege are filled with advertisements of auction sales of cattle, mules and horses captured from the enemy and proclamations by Lord Roberts. One notice issued by the Major of the Army Service Corps fixes the price of meat and foodstuffs, a proceeding which might with advantage be followed in this Colony. In an editorial note a comparison is drawn between the siege of Kimberley and the siege of Paris, and reckoning on the siege of the latter place having lasted from the 21st September to the 23rd January, a total is arrived at of 125 days as against Kimberley's 121—almost a tie.

The Recent Robberies.

Notwithstanding the frequency of the armed attacks by robbers on unprotected houses within the bounds of the Colony, the police when informed on reaches them are not slow to set upon it, and the result invariably is that the robbers are brought to book. Yesterday, the three Chinamen who entered a house at Siao Si Wan and stole \$825 in money, clothing and jewellery of the value of \$174, appeared at the Magistrate. The prisoners formed part of a gang who entered the house armed with revolvers and threatened to shoot the inmates if they made a noise. They then ransacked the house and cleared off with the articles and money stolen. Inspector Robertson on obtaining information, at once telephoned to all the Police Stations, and Sgt. Loeck, of Wandui, succeeded in arresting the three prisoners on the road with bundles on their backs, the contents of which were afterwards identified as being part of the stolen property. The men were committed for trial.

Stearns' Headache Cure.

is one of the few remedies which can be used with perfect safety and always relieved. STEARNS' the original and genuine, is certain and speedy in giving relief. Sold by all chemists, Wholesale and Retail from A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

BEWARE OF A COUGH.

A COUGH is not a disease but a symptom. Consumption and bronchitis, which are the most dangerous, and fatal diseases, have for their first indication a persistent cough, and if properly treated at once, the cough subsides and the result is a permanent cure. Stearns' Cough Remedy has proven wonderfully successful, and gained its wide reputation and extensive sale by its success in curing the diseases which cause coughing. If it is not beneficial it will not cost you a cent. For sale by all Dealers. Watson & Co., General Agents.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS' SERVICE.

LONDON, 2nd May.
DISASTROUS EXPLOSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

An explosion of blasting powder has occurred at a mine at Scholfield, Utah, killing over 200 persons.

THE WAR—GENERAL CARRINGTON'S PROGRESS.

Router's correspondent at Beira, 28th April, wires that General Carrington has reached the depot camp at Maradabes.

THE ADVANCE IN THE FREE STATE.

Router's correspondent at Thabanku, 4th instant, wires that General Hamilton's division was engaged yesterday and to-day in forcing a passage northward at Houtney. The enemy who was in force and held the sides of the hills and peaks fled when the British attack was delivered and the passage was cleared. The Boers on the mountain are now shelling the outlying camp necessitating its removal to a safer place.

CASUALTIES.

The casualties of General Hamilton's force on the 30th April were 8 officers and twenty men of various regiments, killed, wounded and missing.

RESULT OF THE TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

1 Diamond Jubilee.
2 Bonanza.
3 Sidus.

THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND ENTERTAINMENTS.

HANDSOME SURPLUS.

The gross receipts for the three performances amounted to \$1653, the expenses incurred totalled \$269.34, leaving a balance of \$1383.66 which sum has been handed over to the Hon. Treasurer of the Famine Fund.

The accounts have been audited by the Hon. H. C. Nicolle.

James A. Lawson, Hon. Sec.
Hongkong, 4th May, 1900.

The expenses of putting on a variety entertainment such as the above would be considerable if it were not for the kindness and generosity of various firms and individuals who assist the Committee by giving their services free or at a nominal rate.

For the Indian Famine Fund special thanks are due to the City Hall Committee for giving the Theatre free, equivalent to \$225, to the Amateur Dramatic Club for taking over the scenery at a cost of \$120, whilst the Club also provided all the properties, wigs, make-up, etc., and to Messrs Kuhn and Knorr for providing most of the "Mikado" costumes free of cost. The Gas and Electric Light Companies charged nothing for lighting and, in the case of the former, this means a sum of about \$100. Messrs Lums and Crawford and Coy., and the Robinson Piano Co. loaned pianos, and Messrs Gaudin and Co. made a handsome contribution in the shape of the programme, besides doing all the incidental printing. The *Hongkong Telegraph* and *The China Mail* advertised for nothing, and *The Daily Press* in which much more space was requisitioned charged nothing. Mr. and Mrs. Saklat, besides designing and making several dresses, gave very valuable assistance for which they would accept no fee. Half rates only were charged by Mr. Lal Aya for running the Booking Office and by Messrs Campbell, Moore and Co. for making up the Company.

The Art Journal.

The principal article in the April number of the *Art Journal* describes the mosaic decoration now in progress in St. Paul's, London, which is the greatest work of the kind ever undertaken solely by Englishmen. The article is illustrated with beautiful coloured plates. All that is best and noblest has been assimilated in the design, and the central Church of England's wide domains stands glorious in a robe, splendid to sight and emblematic of that vast dominion which God has trusted to her keeping; solid as the rock, fused in the fire, beautiful exceedingly. Hitherto England sought mosaic from abroad, and ten years ago when this work of decoration was great Richmond protested, "If our great Cathedral cannot be decorated by the mind and hands of Englishmen, let it retain the dull, cavernous, and unsympathetic interior which it now presents." To rely on England seemed to many the blighting of the whole scheme, but Richmond's arguments prevailed, and the impossible has now become an accomplished fact. There is an interesting and full appreciation of the late James Mackay—one of the most prominent of the great artists of the Modern Dutch School. The pictorial possibilities of the stage are discussed by Mr. A. L. Barry, and Mr. Snowden Ward contributes an interesting paper on two well-known Devonshire potteries—Watcombe and Allers Vale. There are notices of the National Gallery and Art Exhibitions in Edinburgh and Glasgow, and a fine print from "Admission," by W. Bouguereau. The Easter number of the *Art Journal* deals with the decorative art of St. Edward Burne-Jones, but the letterpress being by Arthur Verelst.

Stearns' Wine of God Liver Oil is the best of all COD LIVER OIL preparations—without a trace of the fishy taste. Palatable—increases strength, weight and colour—promotes sleep. "Pharmaceutical Review," A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., London.

THE SACREDNESS OF HUMAN LIFE IN CHINA.

One of the fundamental principles of the Chinese legal and moral code, is the sacredness of human life. He that sheds man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed (*Shan jen li shang*). This doctrine seems always to have been an integral part of the Chinese outfit, and even in the case of such else which they have long possessed, there is no visible tendency to depart from it as a principle. In this respect the Chinese differ essentially from the men of the West. There are many countries in which the death penalty for all varieties of killing was once strictly enforced, where it is now difficult to secure a conviction, even in crimes of aggravated type. In many lands capital punishment has been altogether abolished, with results which seem to be still a matter of dispute among experts. In China, an empire which is subject to few social and to no legal convulsions, the death penalty remains the same from age to age, and it is an interesting inquiry how it works. It must be remembered that the Chinese population is almost everywhere dense; that the members of society are bound to one another by a great variety of ties to which in the West we have no parallel; that owing to the struggle for existence the temptations to violence threatening human life can never long be absent; and that the ideas of the Chinese people being substantially uniform, crime against life will be everywhere regarded in practically the same light no matter by whom committed. Three preliminary facts gradually force themselves upon our notice, whenever we begin to examine into the real stability of the Chinese regard for human life. First, that the whole Chinese race is especially liable to sudden and at times volcanic attacks of anger, which generally justifies the classical definition of the Latins as "a short malice." To one who knows anything about the Chinese this remark needs no illustration, because exemplifications are always at hand on every side.

A related fact of importance is that in China it is possible to have a highly abnormal development of anger, without resort to any serious physical violence. To an inhabitant of northern Europe, this is a phenomenon of ever fresh surprise, albeit the exhibition of the fact is by no means confined to the Chinese people. Once more we are compelled to note that there may be considerable physical violence, without great risk to the life of the participants. The Chinese seldom wish to kill any one outright unless under exceptional provocation. But they are experts in the art of half-killing one, mauling him in such a way that he "can not stir," or incapacitating him from further activity by the destruction of his eyes, and other cruel practices not infrequently brought to public notice, and too common even to attract remark.

What effect the Chinese laws may have upon the prevalence of crime it is difficult to say, because there is never any essential alteration of current conditions, affording a basis of comparison between one set of circumstances and another. What is certain, however, is that whenever a murder has actually been committed, the laws are very likely to be set at defiance by the private composition of the matter, without regard to official cognizance, which all parties have the best reason to dread. There is a natural and a commendable desire to escape the ignominy of a public exposure at an official inquest, but there is a still stronger wish to avoid the enormous and interminable expenses which such proceedings involve. On this account, whatever the laws may direct, it often appears that there is almost no murder which cannot be arranged for "in such a way that he can not stir." In cases of manslaughter, homicide, and the like, such adjustments are frequently the rule, but in cases of malice premeditated there is more difficulty in the matter. Here we come upon an instructive fact of wide application. Murders, like everything else in China, are intimately connected with the matter of "face," that is to say, the preservation of the ideal relation, supposed to exist between an individual and the public, which is always conceived of as an Argus-eyed spectator, taking careful note of everything, and severely criticizing whatever is "out of harmony" with the current standards. Thus face prevents the adjustments of unpardonable lawsuits of all kinds, which every party would be glad enough to have settled out of court, because matters having gone to a certain stage, one party or the other would lose the part of an opponent. Injustice is common enough everywhere, and justice in the strictest might as well be considered as out of the question altogether. The vital matter is how the business looks to others, and upon the basis it will not be improved by being pressed for a decision. This is made abundantly manifest when the case relates to some one whose life was considered of no importance to any one else. "While alive he is a mere stalk of grass; when he is dead he is a treasure," says the adage. This means that the decreed value of human life being what it is, violent loss of it (or even the appearance or suspicion of such loss) must be summarily dealt with. This being everywhere presupposed, the death-blow becomes a matter of expediency, and is usually for every salable in a monetary point of view, than the longest life could ever have become.

THE WAR.

THE RELIEF OF LADYSMITH. EXPERIENCES OF A VOLUNTEER PRIVATE.

(From a Correspondent.)

Durban, March 10.

The lot of a Transvaal refugee, killing time in Durban and daily witnessing bustling war preparations, falls upon a Britisher in good health, so New Year's Day found me in Pietermaritzburg successfully through the medical, riding and shooting tests, enrolled as a soldier of the Queen in a troop of the Volunteer Horse. At Fort Napier, the Military Depot, we spent several days in preliminary drill and fitting out, a paternal Government providing the complete equipment. Being mounted infantry we carry a rifle and bayonet and wear the regulation khaki uniform, helmet and puttees. The kit is carried on the saddle, behind blanket and waterproof sheet, in front moccasin and nose-bag with wallets for sundries; add the bandolier, haversack and water-bottle which are slung over the shoulders and you have the mounted trooper in full marching order. When all was ready we marched out of camp under the critical gaze of the regulars, and an hour later were packed away in an open railway truck, only to make way in a few minutes for the King's Royal Rifles, also bound for the front. However, later on we shared another open truck with some of the 1st Royal Dragoons and were whirled northward to join the main column at Chieveley. Kind friends showering good things edible among us as we passed, the luck of Tommy Atkins on the road to the War. Night fell, so did the rain, it was bitterly cold and our wraps were strapped to the saddles—miles ahead, but a soldier must not grumble whatever his fate.

ESTCOURT.

Estcourt was reached at mid-night, a thoughtful officer having ready a basket full of hot tea and a huge hunk of bread and meat cake, then he stood a long beer round and Imperial officers from henceforth were rated jolly good fellows. Into first-class sleeping saloons for the night—such is Tommy's luck—and on again at daybreak to Frere, over the treble bridge erected alongside the one blown up by the Boers, passing on the right the over-turned trucks and the neatly-trimmed grave—the relics of the armoured train disaster—and on the left about 400 yards from the line the insignificant-looking kopje from which the Dutch fled, to Chieveley camps on the flats about five miles in front of the Colenso heights which extend in a ragged chain many miles east and west.

THE SPIONKOP AFFAIR.

It was Sunday, hostilities were suspended, cricket and football were in full swing and a general air of welcome indifference prevailed. At night the Boers could be seen flashing their signals from kopje to kopje and at dawn the signals on Gun Hill trained a 4.7 on a party of them on the River Bank who were said to be attempting the removal of the British guns captured on December 15. Rumours of an approaching struggle were abroad. However, in two days the rising sun saw tents struck, wagons loaded, dummies frowning boldly on Gun Hill in place of the naval 4.7 guns and a large portion of the forces marching westward towards Springfield, about twelve miles away, where by January 16th the column again assembled. By this date Lord Dundonald had seized the heights near the Tugela, about seven miles further north, and the word went round that we were to make a dash and get through at all costs; the re-issue of identification cards, field dressings and emergency rations, seeming to verify the rumour. In a few hours the orders came, the spectacle of this army of over 20,000 moving off, being one to remember for many a day. Of the fighting which terminated in the Spionkop affair the world already knows more than we do. Our troops led heavily; the sight of the number of dead horses with empty saddles returning to Spionkop's camp being something cruel.

A SECOND ATTEMPT.

However, another attempt was to be made to get through. North of Spionkop's is a high hill called Mount Alice where the Boers had their guns. This position commands the western portion of the Valley beyond and the low ridge in the possession of the enemy some five miles in front. Through the valley flows the Tugela with many a sinuous curve, and here is Potgieter's drift. On the morning of February 5th we found ourselves in the valley at the foot of the hills at every point of which our guns were shelling the ridge opposite for all they were worth. Creeping along eastward we lit by a knal, and looking back saw the flash of what we afterwards were told was a faint attack on the enemy's position. Half way across the valley opposite Mount Alice is a small hill over which the balloon had been hoisted. In front of this hill were several batteries of Artillery shelling the ridge opposite preparatory to the attack of the Infantry who were in advance. While we watched shell after shell dropped among the guns, the enemy having the range to a battery retired past us along the valley, the others now followed, the last few guns galloping off leaving the gunners to follow on foot. Then the Infantry moved to the shelter of the small hill, the Boers, still dropping in their midst the

while, proceeding eastward we halted among the trees and boulders at the foot of Zwartkop, a steep hill occupied by the Boers, opposite which the low ridge extending along the far side of the valley terminates in a small kopje, which was strongly entrenched by the enemy. East of this position is a hollow with a farm house in the centre, then a steep high hill capped with a rocky peak where the Boers had several guns and Maxim-Nordenfolt. When we arrived the guns were ahead and three batteries on the ridge below were shelling the kopje in front at a terrible pace, the firing continuing until the late afternoon, when during a lull, a company of the Durbanians were seen crossing the plain in skirmishing order towards the hollow; soon another company followed, then another, and others who up till now had been lying on the turf in readiness, looking in their khaki uniforms exactly like stone walls, got on the move. Still more emerged from the shelter by the river, two after two passing us from left to right, presently crossing the open in the wake of the others. A rattling rifle fire was going on all this while, the Boer Pom-pom shells could be seen exploding the ranks of our men as they neared the enemy's territory, and the stretcher bearers who had been called out were bringing back the wounded. As darkness came on our men could be seen against the sky-line swarming along the crest of the position and we fell asleep among the stones with the self-consciousness of victory and amid the usual exaggerated rumours as to prisoners captured and wholesale slaughter of the foe. As we expected, the Boers during the darkness brought up their big gun, and during the grey dawn their shells were dropping among our ambulance and uncomfortably near ourselves. We left the steaming coffee untasted and beat a hasty retreat into a narrow ravine, where we remained two days watching the intermittent shelling of different points of the enemy's position.

HACKING OUT.

On the Thursday morning something unusual was in the wind. Non-Coms. were in a worse temper than of late. We added up and climbed the hill—in the rain—racing down a narrow path into the valley below, where we met a regiment of infantry, who had come by another route, and saw transport wagons laboriously toiling through a rocky pass. It was a general backing out undoubtedly and we heard the Boers were even then swarming over the ground occupied by us yesterday, and our Commissioner Staff later on told of hair-breadth escapes from Boer shells which followed them as they retired after days of patrolling, scouting, conveying transport and other vicissitudes. We anchored near Monte Christo a formidable height east of Colenso, which was strongly entrenched and held by the Boers in considerable numbers. While here, one evening shelling forth in the memory above all others—when we received

THE QUEEN'S CHOCOLATE. If the Great Lady could know how her kindness was appreciated by her loyal subjects her pleasure would be as great as ours was genuine. Long may she reign. After several days' vigorous shell and rifle fire, the enemy beat a hasty retreat, and riding over the ground some hours later our fellows secured any quantity of loot in the form of blankets, coats and water-bottles found in the narrow trenches dug behind the stone wall fortifications scattered along every ridge. The Boers had not even removed their tents, and an ox was found only partly cut up and Pom-pom Maxim Nordenfolt shells and Mauser cartridges were lying about in thousands. A few days later three companies of our men forded the river and occupied the first range of hills, the coast thus proving clear for the position troop threw a bridge across under the shelling of a Boer 12-pounder, and the scene along the river banks became a busy one as the troops assembled and awaited their turn to pass over. Then followed days of waiting, listening to the perpetual cracking of the rifles and the booming of our Artillery, several large sieges guns having lately arrived. But the Boers stuck tenaciously to their ground and it was not till Feb. 27th, a day hitherto held in reverence by every Boer, when our forces drove the enemy from the hills and thus opened the road to Ladysmith, as no further resistance was offered by the Dutch who were too busy removing their guns from the hills around the beleaguered town. On Feb. 28th not a shot was heard, a general feeling of satisfaction and relief after the long tension prevailed, hundreds of Tommies were bathing and washing their uniforms in the River, and the forces in the rear made a movement forward. Throughout the morning the wounded were being brought in from the hills, including many of the enemy, several of whom being stained orange and green-yellow from the effects of the Lyddite. One of these, evidently a Boer, was a Jew who was undoubtedly dying, told us that he was thirty-five of them in the trench when the shell burst and only himself survived.

RELIEF OF LADYSMITH. The opening of a Squadron of the Imperial Light Horse and one of the Natal Outfitters made a dash and got through to Ladysmith, to the surprise and joy of the inhabitants who were who were immediately put on the rails—clay in four thicknesses, the allowance for some time was having been cut, and a quarter per day, and these, with dried tea, leaves or dead grass as the only food, in the way of tobacco. The following day General Buller and a large force with supplies entered the town, and the relief of Ladysmith was accomplished.

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HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LTD.

To-day, at noon, an extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, was held in the Company's Office, 2, Connaught Road, for the purpose of confirming certain special resolutions passed at the meeting of the Company held on 18th April last. Hon. J. J. Kowick, presided, and the other present were—Hon. C. P. Chater, O.M.G.; Messrs A. J. Raymond, A. Haupt, J. A. Mackay, D. M. Moss, N. A. Siebs, P. Suckow, G. H. Midhurst, C. S. Sharp, R. C. Wilson, F. Jordan, E. George, Captain A. Toller, Captain Anderson and E. Osbourne (Secretary).

The Secretary read the resolutions as follows:—
1.—That the Capital of the Company be increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 by the creation of 10,000 New Shares of \$50 each.
2.—That each New Share be issued at a Premium of \$25 per Share and be allotted to the Shareholders of the Company in the proportion of One New Share for every Two Shares now held by them.
3.—That the Amount due for the New Shares be called up as follows, viz:—\$50 per Share on the 1st July, 1900, to rank for Six months' Dividend out of the Profits of the Year 1900, and the remaining \$25 per Share on the 1st October 1900.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOME SERIOUS LOCAL PROBLEMS. To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, May 4.
Dear Mr. Editor—After reading the article in last night's issue headed "Some Serious Local Problems," I thought I could see a way out of two or three of the difficulties, so have written you this letter hoping that some good may come of it. Under the headings of "The Plague Question" and "The Hackers," reference is made to the stuffing of vegetable refuse down the drains and also the providing of room for the sale of vegetables outside the Market. This matter may be dealt with by providing sheds for hawkers in places where vegetable refuse is sold, such as Bridges Street north side, Tai Ping Shan, or in Third Street on the corner of Western Street, or in King Fung Street upper end. By doing this the Police could regulate them and the Sanitary Department could supervise them as to cleanliness, etc., thus preventing squatting and depositing of rubbish in the drains.

Under the heading of "Visitation and Control," the depositing of dead bodies in the street is mentioned, and an efficient patrol advertised, as well as the impossibility to trace where these dead bodies come from. This may be very dead, but what a number of patrolmen would be required to watch every street and lane in an infected area. These bodies are not deposited when a Policeman is in sight, and I expect that when they are deposited there are several persons on the lookout in case of a surprise, so that unless a watchman was placed in every by-lane and alley, and a large number in the main thoroughfares, an efficient patrol could not be maintained. With regard to the distribution of houses, I think something may be done which would give the Sanitary Department power to more effectively disinfect infected premises. I myself have seen people shifting their furniture on one day, and the Sanitary Board's officers collecting the same house the next. I am sure that in many cases the Officer who does the disinfecting work finds many if not all of the inhabitants of infected houses have cleared out before his arrival. To prevent this, notification should be given to the nearest Police Station, by persons residing within an area declared to be infected, of their intention to change their place of residence at least 24 hours before so doing, so that enquiries may be made as to whether any person had been sick in the house, and if so, what the cause of the illness was. Telephone to the Tung Wah Hospital and when ascertained that no sickness has occurred in the house, a permit to remove their furniture could be granted. The present and future address should be notified, and in case an admission should be made to Hospital of any person who lived at the former place, the persons who have gone to the latter could be watched and their clothing, etc., disinfected as also the house from which they came.

Under the heading of a "Protest Against Linewashing," the matter of linewashing is dealt with and objected to by Dr. Hirston, but I am of opinion that if the Law relating to same were rigidly enforced, there would be no cause for such objection. The Law says that every house, or part of a house, in which members of more than one family reside shall be disinfected and linewashed every year to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board. I have been informed that in England linewashing is considered sufficient to prevent the spread of disease, and that no one who has been in the Colony one month will disagree with me when I say that this cannot be considered sufficient cleansing for the average Chinese residence, and in the case of the poorer class, I think that the law was enforced as to the cleansing of premises, and the houses thoroughly scrubbed down before the linewashing was done, the chance of people becoming infected by Plague bacilli, through abrasions caused by the shifting about of furniture, would be reduced to a minimum as all the furniture could be washed before being shifted, under the supervision of men employed by the Government for that purpose.

Regarding that my few humble remarks may tend to some end, and that the Plague will soon come to an end, and thank you in anticipation for circulating on so much of your valuable space—I am, Sir, Yours very truly,

ANOTHER SPECTATOR.

WEATHER REPORT.

The following notice is issued from the Observatory:—

On the 4th at 11.50 a.m. The thermometer is rising in Japan, and indicating a fall in the China coast. The depression is moving N.E. in the S. part of Sea of Japan. Pressure is highest in the neighbourhood of the Loo-Choo. Gradual light fall in S. China. Forecast: "Light" or "moderate E. winds" fair at first, probably some rain.

WHEN NATURE.

NEEDS assistance it may be best to let it find its way. The most perfect remedy is the most simple and gentle remedy in the Symp. of Phys. manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. 842 by Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Wholesale and Retail.

SHANGHAI SPRING MEETING.

FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, MAY 3.

The Grifins' Plate. Value, Tls. 300. For China ponies that have never run at any meeting. 2 mile.
Mr Ring's Amphion 10.12.1
Messrs Nephew and Edmunds 12
Doppelganger 10.9
Mr Toog's Fraser 11.1
Time, 1 min. 30 2/3 sec.
The Catby Cup. Value, Tls. 150. For China Ponies. 12 mile.
Mr Robson's Loyalty 1
Mr Toog's Yangtze 2
Mr Marins' Danakus 3
Time not given.

This race must have been a big upset as Danakus was the great favourite.
The Jockey Cup. Value, Tls. 100. For China ponies that have never won a race. To be ridden by Jockeys who have never had more than two winning mounts. Once round.

Mr Hansa's Ueno 1
Mr Elphinstone's Merry 2
Mr Nauticus' Shipjack 3
Time, 2 min. 39 2/3 sec.

The Hart Legacy Cup. Presented by the late James Hart, Tls. 100. For China Ponies. Half mile.
Mr Beck's Esperance 1
Mr Baxby's Biar Rose 2
Mr Ciro's Diplomat 3
Time, 59 sec.

The Kings Plate. Value, Tls. 200. For China Ponies. 12 mile.
Chasey 1
Tito Grande 2
Merrylope 3
Time, 3 min. 50 3/5 sec.

The Racing Stakes. A Sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each, for China ponies that have not run before 1st January, 1900. 4 mile.
Tombach 1
Mr Gansall's Ueno 2
The Doctor 3
Time, 2 min. 42 4/5 sec.

The Chikhi Cup. Value, Tls. 150. For Subscription Grifins of this meeting. One mile.
Monopole 1
Ring Off 2
Lada 3
Time, 2 min. 9 sec.

SECOND DAY—FRIDAY, MAY 4.

Chu-Ka-Ka Cup—Three quarters of a mile.
Mr Dupex's The Dealer 1
Mr Riber's Adam 2
Mr John's Foe's Beechnut 3
Times, 1.51 1/2.

Shanghai Derby—One mile and a half.
Mr Ring's Amphion 1
Mr Gansall's Ueno 2
Mr Waverley's Toronado 3
Time, 3.17 1/2.

Ladies' Purse—One mile and a quarter.
Mr Potts' Desert King 1
Mr Elphinstone's Merrythought 2
Mr Ciro's Diplomat 3
Time, 2.43.

JELUBU MINING COMPANY.

From the report submitted at the twenty-first ordinary general meeting of the Jelub Mining and Trading Co., held at Singapore, on April 21, it appears that a profit of \$9,494 had been made on alluvial ore during the half year as compared with \$15,369 in the corresponding previous half year. The Chairman, Mr. Arthur Reid, in the course of a long speech, said that the theory of the report at present was that they had at last put a definite value on the general expenditure account of the mine, and were prepared now to work the mine as a continuous business that is expected to show a profit. In the balance sheet the assets and liabilities squared each other, and there was no longer any debit balance. If, therefore, they made money it would be for dividend purposes, except that it may be desirable to create a reserve fund, which would not only be a financial strength to the company but would be almost necessary as a means of providing a considerable quantity of new machinery. The number of stamps in the mine was three, and they believed they had found or were finding a fourth. The present depth of the shaft is 160 feet. 10 bands of stamps were running night and day and crushing about 500 tons per month. Another 10 bands of stamps were on order, but these cannot be put in work until at least four months from now. There was crushing power for the whole 20 bands of stamps, which when erected will be able to crush 1,000 tons per month. The lineal feet of the drainage on the level of various depths from this 160 feet shaft amount to 1,650 feet, and the quantity of ore in sight is estimated at 65,000 tons. The running cost of 10 bands of stamps is estimated at \$5,000 per month, and the running cost of 20 bands of stamps is estimated at only \$7,000. The moderately estimated average percentage from all this quantity of ore is estimated at 24% black tin or, say, 15% of metallic tin. With tin at \$100 per ton they might reasonably hope on 20 bands of stamps to make \$15,000 per month, which is \$180,000 per year, which would allow them to pay on 20 bands of stamps something approaching to 75% per annum on the capital of the company. After referring to a further calculation of profits at \$150 a ton and the price of shares, with 50 bands of stamps in work, Mr. Reid said it had taken them seven years to prospect the Rim Lode and to get ten bands of stamps at work, and he thought it had taken the Rand mine some ten years to keep twenty heads of stamps at work. He hoped as the year went by they would be able to show to Rand things that would make even the Rand shareholders wonder whether they had chosen the better part.

VESSELS AT THE DOCKS.—At Kowloon:—

